Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5723

INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS LUSAKA 1456

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RH, UK, US

SUBJ: ZAPU/PATRIOTIC FRONT PUBLICATION LAUDS KAUNDA REACTION TO SMITH THREAT AND SEES SCHEME TO TRANSFER BRITISH COLONIAL POWER IN RHODESIA TO U.S.

REF: LUSAKA 1215

1. A SECOND UNNUMBERED EDITION OF "THE ZIMABWE PEOPLE'S VOICE," A NEW PERIODICAL OF ZAPU/PATRIOTIC FRONT (REFTEL), DATED MAY 21, 1977, CARRIED AN EDITORIAL ENDORSING PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S "TOUGH AND RESOLUTE" RESPONSE TO IAN SMITH'S THREAT OF PRE-EMPTIVE ATTACKS ON ZAMBIA. THE MAY 18 FIRING INCIDENT AT LIVINGSTONE WAS DESCRIBED AS A "GLORIOUS VICTORY FOR ZAMBIA'S FIGHTING MEN" AND THE MAY 18 LANDMINE INCIDENT KILLING FOUR ZAMBIANS AS A UNCLASSIFIED

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RHODESIAN "RESORT TO THEIR OLD TACTICS." SMITH AND HIS ALLIES ARE ADMONISHED THAT DRESSING THE RHODESIAN THREAT "IN A WIG OF SERIOUSNESS" BY DISPATCHING IT THROUGH "THE FULL WEIGHT OF BRITISH DIPLOMATIC MACHINERY" WILL NOT SHAKE OR INHIBIT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT'S DETERMINATION TO PURSUE WAR AS ITS INSTRUMENT OF FREEDOM. ZAMBIA, BOTSWANA AND MOZAMBIQUE WHICH HAVE SUFFERED BECAUSE OF THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN, NOR

LET DOWN BY THE PATRIOTIC FRONT.

- 2. THE SOLE ACCOMPANYING ARTICLE, ENTITLED "THE IMPACT OF THE LIBERATION WAR IN ZIMBABWE," ARUGES THAT THE ZIMBABWE PEOPLE'S ARMY'S PERFORMANCE BETWEEN JANUARY AND APRIL 1977 HAS BEEN SO SUCCESSFUL THAT BRITAIN AND HER ALLIES HAVE HAD TO TAKE STEPS TO PREVENT RHODESIAN SETTLERS FROM LEAVING BEFORE OR AFTER MAJORITY RULE. THE AMERICANS ARE OFFERING BILLIONS OF DOLLARS AS A PACKAGE TO INDUCE THE SETTLERS TO STAY ON. IN SO DOING, THEY ARE ATTEMPTING INDIRECTLY TO BUY ZIMBABWE FROM THE BRITISH SO THEY WILL BE ABLE TO CONTROL THAT COUNTRY PERMANENTLY.
- 3. THE BRITISH AND AMERICANS ARE DESPERATE TO CONTAIN THE SITUATION AND THE BRITISH HAVE PERSUADED THE AMERICANS TO PICK UP THE ZIMBABWE "HOT POTATO." THE ARTICLE SKETCHES OUT WHAT IS PORTRAYED AS A FOUR PHASE PROGRAM FOR TRANSFERRING ZIMBABWE FROM ONE COLONIALIST TO ANOTHER:
- -- FIRST, THE BRITISH PERSUADE THE AMERICANS TO TAKE OVER AS DEMONSTRATED BY THE BILLION DOLLAR DEAL FOR THE SETTLERS.
- -- SECOND, THEY INSIST ON THE DIRECT PARTICIPATION OF THE U.S. IN ANY CONFERENCES ON ZIMBABWE. ("FORTUNATELY, PATRIOTIC FRONT SAW THROUGH THIS AND REJECTED IT BUT TWO WESTERN COUNTRIES ARE HELL BENT ON CARRYING IT OUT.")
- -- THIRD, AT THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES, THEY PLAN ON A PEACE-KEEPING FORCE OF AFRICAN AND ASIAN TROOPS TO BE SENT TO ZIMBABWE.
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- -- FOURTH AND FINAL STEP, THE AMERICANS WILL POUR IN MILLIONS
 OF DOLLARS TO FINANCE THE PRO-WESTERN AFRICAN AND ASIAN COUNTRIES
 SUPPLYING THE PEACE-KEEPING FORCE. THROUGH THIS DEVICE THE
 COUNTRIES IN AFRICA WHICH HAVE CONTRIBUTED SO MUCH TO THE LIBERATION
 STRUGGLE WILL BE SHUNTED ASIDE BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT THE "BLUE-EYED
 BOYS OF THE BRITISH AND AMERICANS."
- 4. TEXT BEING POUCHED. LOW

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BRITISH COLONIAL POWER IN RHODESIA TO U.S.

TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, SOPN, RH, UK, US, (KAUNDA, KENNETH DAVID), (SMITH, IAN)

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